## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 L-02 PM-03 NSC-05

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R 171551Z JAN 75 FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4576 INFO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, AU, CS

SUBJ: AUSTRIAN MEDIA REACTION TO AP PRAGUE REPORT OF ALLEGED RENUNCIATION OF CSSR-USA CLAIMS AGREEMENT

## BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

- 1. NUMBER OF VIENNESE NEWSPAPERS JAN 17, INCLUDING SEMI-OFFICIAL "WIENER ZEITUNG" UNDER HEADLINE "CSSR-USA CLAIMS AGREE-MENT: WHICH PARTY RENOUNCED IT", SPECULATED ON AP PRAGUE REPORT OF JAN 16 CONCERNING ALLEGED MOVE BY CZECH GOVERNMENT TO RENOUNCE CSSR-USA CLAIMS AGREEMENT OF JULY 5, 1974 BECAUSE OF "POLITICAL CONDITIONS" ATTACHED TO AGREEMENT. LINE OF PRESS SPECULATION HERE WAS THAT ACTION OF CZECH GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE HARBINGER OF CHAIN REACTION AMONG EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN WAKE OF EARLIER DECISION BY SOVIET UNION TO RENOUNCE ITS TRADE AGREEMENT WITH US.
- 2. CZECH AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA KOMAREK (WHO INCIDENTALLY PRE-SENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT YESTERDAY) WAS QUOTED IN SAME PRESS STORY THAT HE HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED BY PRAGUE TO DENY SUBSTANCE OF AP REPORT. HIS SPECIFIC COMMENT WAS THAT CSSR HAD NOT RENOUNCED AGREEMENT WITH US, BUT THAT US SENATE HAD NOT GIVEN ITS APPROVAL TO AGREEMENT. END UNCLASSIFIED

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3. ACCORDING TO CZECH EMBASSY HERE, AUSTRIAN PRESS AND TV WERE GIVEN TODAY WHAT IS CONSIDERED CORRECT INTERPRETATION OF CZECH GOVERNMENT'S VIEWPOINT, NAMELY, THAT NO AGREEMENT WITH US HAS BEEN RENOUNCED, THAT US SENATE BY ITS MOVE HAS BLOCKED FURTHER ACTION ON CLAIMS AGREEMENT AND THAT MAIN STUMBLING BLOCK TO RESOLUTION OF CLAIMS ISSUE ARE "FINANCIAL CONDITIONS", NOT "POLITICAL CONDITIONS" ATTACHED TO AGREEMENT BY US SENATE. SAME SOURCE INDICATED THAT IN CZECH VIEWPOINT AUSTRIAN MEDIA HAS BEEN OVERLY DRAMATIC IN ITS TREATMENT OF SUBJECT. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HUMES

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CLAIMS, AGREEMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review

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